

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(15)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

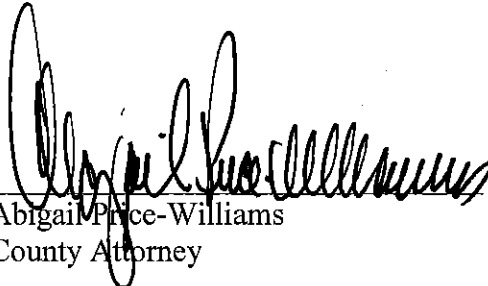
**DATE:** November 8, 2018

**FROM:** Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution supporting Medicaid Expansion in Florida pursuant to the Affordable Care Act and urging the Florida Legislature to pass legislation expanding Medicaid in Florida; waiving requirements of Resolution No. R-764-13 limiting the number of state legislative priorities; amending Resolution No. R-1105-18 to include this item as an additional state legislative priority for the 2019 session

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava.

  
Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

APW/uw

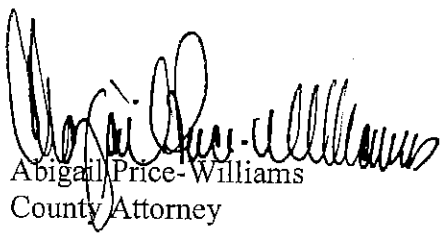


# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** November 8, 2018

**FROM:**   
Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 11(A)(15)

Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Statement of social equity required
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☒ No committee review
- ☐ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's \_\_\_\_\_, 3/5's \_\_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_\_) to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(15)

11-8-18

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING MEDICAID EXPANSION IN FLORIDA PURSUANT TO THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT AND URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS LEGISLATION EXPANDING MEDICAID IN FLORIDA; WAIVING REQUIREMENTS OF RESOLUTION NO. R-764-13 LIMITING THE NUMBER OF STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES; AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. R-1105-18 TO INCLUDE THIS ITEM AS AN ADDITIONAL STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY FOR THE 2019 SESSION

**WHEREAS**, the 111th United States Congress passed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 ("Affordable Care Act"), and on March 23, 2010, the President signed the bill into law; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the key components of the Affordable Care Act required states to expand Medicaid to a minimum national eligibility threshold of 138 percent of the federal poverty level effective January 1, 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, this provision, however, was not upheld by the United States Supreme Court, in effect allowing states the option of whether or not to expand Medicaid; and

**WHEREAS**, during the 2013, 2014, and 2015 state legislative sessions, the Florida Legislature did not pass a bill regarding Medicaid expansion; and

**WHEREAS**, in particular, during the 2015 legislative session, the Florida Senate proposed the Florida Health Insurance Affordability Exchange Program, SB 7044, submitted by the Health Policy Committee, which would have used funds available under the Affordable Care Act to extend health care coverage to low-income Floridians earning up to 138 percent of the federal poverty level; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 7044 would have drawn more than \$18 billion over 10 years in federal funds to expand the pool of low-income Floridians eligible for health insurance and help them buy it from private providers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Senate overwhelmingly passed SB 7044 in a 33-to-3 vote; however, the House failed to pass the bill; and

**WHEREAS**, it has been three years since the Florida Legislature last considered Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth Fund, an independent think tank, published a 2018 Scorecard on State Health System Performance which ranked Florida 48th out of 50 states with respect to access, quality, and affordability of health care; and

**WHEREAS**, 32 other states and the District of Columbia have expanded Medicaid; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly 900,000 people in Florida remain uninsured because they are unable to afford private health insurance and yet do not qualify for Medicaid; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Legislature continues to have an opportunity to expand Medicaid; and

**WHEREAS**, Medicaid expansion would provide Florida residents access to preventive and therapeutic health care services, improving health outcomes, social, and behavioral outcomes, and the use of evidence-based medicine and best practices in health improvement plans; and

**WHEREAS**, enacting Medicaid expansion would ensure access to improved medical care benefits for low income, hard-working Floridians; and

**WHEREAS**, expanding Medicaid in Florida under the Affordable Care Act is made all the more important by the fact that hospital providers may experience significant reductions in Medicaid reimbursement over the next several years because of federal reductions to the Low-Income Pool (LIP) program and similar programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the financial impact of not expanding Medicaid would be felt most acutely by the “safety-net” hospitals that serve uninsured and low-income families, such as Jackson Health System; and

**WHEREAS**, the failure to enact Medicaid expansion would be a detriment to the 900,000 Florida residents that would qualify for coverage under Medicaid expansion, as well as the economic health of their communities, limiting the economic development potential for the entire State of Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, additionally, failing to expand Medicaid hurts small businesses by exposing them to as much as \$125 million in fines for uninsured workers who could have been covered through the new health care program; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board has previously passed Resolution Nos. R-783-15 and R-938-16 which supported Medicaid expansion in Florida, urged the Florida Legislature to pass legislation expanding Medicaid in Florida, and identified the issue as a County priority for the 2016 and 2017 state legislative sessions; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board would like to identify expanding Medicaid in Florida as one of Miami-Dade County’s state legislative priorities for the 2019 session,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that this Board:

**Section 1.** Supports Medicaid expansion in Florida pursuant to the Affordable Care Act and urges the Florida Legislature to pass legislation expanding Medicaid in Florida.

**Section 2.** Waives the requirements of Resolution No. R-764-13 and amends Resolution No. R-1105-18 to include this item as an additional state legislative priority for the 2019 session.

**Section 3.** Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation.

**Section 4.** Directs the County's state lobbyists to support the action set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2019 State Legislative Package to include this item as a priority.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava. It was offered by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Chairman	
Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman	
Daniella Levine Cava	Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Sally A. Heyman	Eileen Higgins
Barbara J. Jordan	Joe A. Martinez
Jean Monestime	Dennis C. Moss
Rebeca Sosa	Sen. Javier D. Souto
Xavier L. Suarez	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.

Javier Zapata

